



Lifelong  
Learning  
Programme

# LITERATURE REVIEW



Specialpedagogiska  
skolmyndigheten 



**Jordanstown**  
the Northern Ireland  
school and  
centre of excellence  
for children  
who are deaf or  
visually impaired



**ChildVision**  
National Education Centre for Blind Children



**THE ROYAL BLIND SCHOOL**



**Onerva**  
Centre for Learning and Consulting



**Ekeskolan / Resource Center Vision Örebro**  
Sweden  
<http://www.spsm.se>

**Gymnázium pro zrakově postižené a Střední  
odborná škola pro zrakově postižené**  
Czech Republic  
<http://www.goa.brailnet.cz>

**Institut pour Déficients visuels**  
Luxembourg  
<http://www.idv.lu>

**Jordanstown School**  
Northern Ireland  
<http://www.jordanstownschool.org>

**Childvision**  
**National Education Centre for Blind Children**  
Ireland  
<http://www.childvision.ie>

**Royal Blind School**  
Scotland  
<http://www.royalblind.org/royalblindschool>

**Onerva Centre for Learning and Consulting**  
Finland  
<http://www.onerva.fi>

**Zavod za slepo in slabovidno mladino Ljubljana**  
Slovenia  
<http://www.zssm.si>

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## LEO LEARNS BY DOING (DVD)

This DVD is one of the most practical, useful and accessible DVD's available giving tips for everyday life with a blind infant. In the DVD we see a parent with a blind child and a physiotherapist who is also a mobility rehabilitation and orientation specialist. This unique team worked in conjunction with experts at the Finnish Federation of the Visually Impaired.

It was the winner of the Silver Award in the 2011 World Media Festival.

It is designed to be of interest to:

- Parents/guardians
- Non-specialists
- Professionals

It is produced by: *The Finnish Federation of the Visually Impaired*

It is available from: *www.nkl.fi*

Language: *Finnish, English, Russian, Swedish.*

## RNIB EFFECTIVE PRACTICE GUIDES - MOBILITY AND INDEPENDENCE, EARLY YEARS AND SCHOOL AGE (BOOKLETS)

These booklets give some useful suggestions on the basics of mobility, early independence and living skills. Some of the suggestions take the form of bullet points which makes sure the ideas are concise easy to read and work with.

They are designed to be of interest to:

- Parents/guardians
- Non-specialists
- Professionals

They are produced by: *The RNIB*

It is available from: *www.rnib.org.uk/earlyyearslearning*

Language: *English*

## **RNIB EFFECTIVE PRACTICE GUIDE - PLAY MOVEMENT AND TOUCH (BOOKLET)**

This guide explores the importance of play, movement and touch as part of an early years curriculum. It offers suggestions and ideas for exploring the tactile world and gives examples of toys and items that will help provide a wide variety of tactile experiences and which will support the development of a visually impaired child.

It is designed to be of interest to:

- Parents/guardians

It is produced by: *The RNIB*

It is available from: *www.rnib.org.uk*

Language: *English*

## **RNIB GUIDE FOCUS ON FOUNDATION (BOOKLET)**

This information booklet is written in language which is accessible. There are many useful practical tips relating to seven areas of learning and development during the early years of a visually impaired child. Most of these areas are closely linked to mobility and orientation. The reader can find the main ideas of each chapter in a summary titled 'key things to remember'.

It is designed to be of interest to:

- Parents/guardians
- Non-specialists

It is produced by: *The RNIB*

It is available from: *www.rnib.org*

Language: *English*

## **RNIB GUIDE: MOBILITY AND INDEPENDENCE: SCHOOL AGE (BOOKLET)**

This guide is targeted at everyone who works with school age children and the focus is on the development of specialist skills relating to mobility, orientation and independence. In relative terms it defines independence but emphasis is on helping children with VI to develop skills that minimise their dependence on others.

It is divided into 6 sections:

- The basics of mobility
- Early foundation mobility and independence
- Advanced mobility and orientation training
- Independent living skills
- Access to leisure activities
- Further guides

It is designed to be of interest to:

- Parents/guardians
- Professionals

It is produced by: *The RNIB*

It is available from: *www.rnib.org*

Language: *English*

## ENVIRONMENTAL DESCRIPTION FOR VISUALLY AND DUAL SENSORY IMPAIRED PEOPLE (BOOK)

This handbook analyses how we can describe the environment. It presents different methods and techniques which can be developed and applied to each individual user's perspective ranging from life activities to artistic interpretations. It focuses both on the describer's and the receiver's perspectives; giving practical examples with additional exercises for professionals who work with visually and dual sensory impaired people.

It is designed to be of interest to:

- Parents/guardians
- Non-specialists
- Professionals

It is published by: *A1 Management UK, 2010*

Authors: *Riitta Lahtinen, Russ Palmer & Merja Lahtinen*

It is available from: *merjahlahtinen@gmail.com riitta.lahtinen@kolumbus.fi*

Language: *English*

## COMMUNICATION WITH VISUALLY IMPAIRED MULTI-HANDICAPPED CHILDREN (BOOK)

The book inspires and stimulates parents to find ways of communicating with their child. Such communication is important in supporting a child's desire to explore and gain understanding of the world around them. The book acknowledges the importance and vital role of parental experience of their own child while demonstrating that at times the guidance and support of outside professionals can be useful. It provides practical ideas organised in themes, which are presented in captioned, photographic form.

It is designed to be of interest to:

- Parents/guardians

It is published by: *Bartimeus, Netherlands, (2002)*

Authors: *Marion Weisz*

It is available from: *www.bartimeus.nl/publicaties\_shop\_product/5314*

Language: *English*

## FOM - SHARED ATTENTION (BOOK & DVD)

The project deals with shared attention between sighted adults and young children who are blind. By shared attention, we mean that the adult and the child have their attention focused towards the same object, event, experience or activity simultaneously. The authors have chosen to use FOM (Felles Oppmerksomhet) as an abbreviation for this concept.

Focuses on ages between 3 months and 3 years to show development at different ages.

This publication has accompanying DVD's.

It is designed to be of interest to:

- Parents/guardians

It is produced by: *The Huseby and Tambartun Resource Centre, Oslo and Melhus. (2005)*

It is available from: *www.statped.no*

Languages: *English; Danish; Swedish; Norwegian*

## DEVELOPING EARLY SKILL WITH THE VISUALLY IMPAIRED CHILD (PDF)

To provide practical ideas and activities to help develop motor skills, communication, use of vision, play and self-care abilities of pre-school, visually impaired children.

It is designed to be of interest to:

- Parents/guardians
- Non-specialists
- Professionals

It is produced by: *The Royal Blind School, Edinburgh, Scotland*

It is available from: *Angie Bisson – Habilitation Specialist, Royal Blind School, Edinburgh*

Language: *English*

## PLAY IT MY WAY (BOOK)

This book is a valuable resource to refer to and is described as ‘A book to dip into, and refer to time and time again as your child grows, develops and explores.’ RNIB (1995)

It focuses on the early years and describes how to encourage movement through play with a visual impaired or multi-disabled visually impaired child.

It gives information about developing independence and environmental awareness. It describes how everyday events can be learning opportunities, incorporating the use of language, communication skills and the use of the other senses.

It gives practical advice and is easy to follow with descriptive illustrations.

It is designed to be of interest to:

- Parents/guardians

It is produced by: *The RNIB*

It is available from:

[http://www.rnib.org.uk/shop/Pages/ProductDetails.aspx?category=parents\\_teachers\\_publications&productID=ED13001](http://www.rnib.org.uk/shop/Pages/ProductDetails.aspx?category=parents_teachers_publications&productID=ED13001)

Language: *English*

## AN ORIENTATION AND MOBILITY PRIMER FOR FAMILIES AND YOUNG CHILDREN (BOOK)

This book is presented in a logical and friendly manner with good descriptive photographs. It includes good definitions of terminology, details what family members can do to encourage independence and documents frequently asked questions about orientation and mobility.

It is designed to be of interest to:

- Parents/guardians
- Non-specialists

It is published by: *The American Foundation for the Blind (1989)*

Authors: *Bonnie Dodson-Burk and Everett W. Hill*

It is available from: *www.afb.org/store*

Language: *English*

## HOW TO UNDERSTAND AND SUPPORT CHILDREN WITH VISUAL NEEDS (BOOK)

This book is written in a clear and informative way without jargon. It gives information on eye conditions and details the strategies which can be put in place to support the independence of children with visual needs. Case studies are used throughout the book to give additional information about the subjects being discussed. It provides detailed information about risk assessments and environmental audits and describes what Habilitation is and the role of a Habilitation Specialist.

It is designed to be of interest to:

- Parents/guardians
- Non-specialists
- Professionals

It is published by: *LDA, Findel Education, Hyde Buildings, Ashton Road, Hyde, Cheshire, SK1 4SH*

Authors: *Olga Miller & Karl Wall*

It is available from: *LDA, Findel Education, Hyde Buildings, Ashton Road, Hyde, Cheshire, SK1 4SH*

Language: *English*

## THE BLACK BOOK OF COLORS

Living with the use of one's eyes can make imagining blindness difficult, but this innovative title invites readers to imagine living without sight through remarkable illustrations done with raised lines and descriptions of colors based on imagery. Braille letters accompany the illustrations and a full Braille alphabet offers sighted readers help reading along with their fingers. This extraordinary title gives young readers the ability to experience the world in a new way.

It is designed to be of interest to:

- Parents/guardians
- Professionals

It is published by: *Groundwood Books (2008)*

It is available from: *e.g. Amazon*

Language: *English*

## **STEP-UP - BOOK OF SIMPLE STEPS**

This booklet aims to raise awareness and provide guidance to support a young learner with a visual impairment within the areas of Orientation, Mobility and Independence.

It is designed to be of interest to:

- Parents/guardians
- Non-specialists
- Professionals

It is published by: *STEP UP Comenius Working Group*

It is available from: <http://www.step-up-comenius.eu/>

Languages: *English, Finnish, Swedish, Czech, Slovenian, French*